



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

mn
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/535,065	10/24/2005	Catherine Robert	S1022.81242US00	1848
46329	7590	06/12/2007	EXAMINER	
STMicroelectronics Inc.			VICARY, KEITH E	
c/o WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.				
600 Atlantic Avenue			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BOSTON, MA 02210-2206			2183	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			06/12/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/535,065	Applicant(s) ROBERT ET AL.	
	Examiner Keith Vicary	Art Unit 2183	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-11 are pending in this office action and presented for examination. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7 have been amended and claims 8-11 have been added by amendment filed 5/24/2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

- a. A claim to an abstract idea must effect a useful, concrete, and tangible result.
- b. The tangible requirement requires that the claim must set forth a practical application of that abstract idea to produce a real-world result, and not just something that has been determined that has not been made available for use through some form of conveyance or at least temporary storage somewhere.

4. In claim 8, there is no real-world result when it is determined that the jump is not implicit.

- c. Claim 10 is rejected for failing to alleviate the rejection of claim 8 above. Note that claim 9 is not rejected under the same grounds because it includes what happens "if it is determined that the jump instruction explicitly indicates the address of the jump destination instruction."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nexus 5001 Forum: Standard for a Global Embedded Processor Debug Interface (Nexus 5001 Forum) in view of Argade et al. (Argade) (US 5724505).

7. Nexus 5001 Forum is cited by the applicant in IDS paper filed 5/13/2005.

8. Argade is cited by the applicant in IDS paper filed 5/13/2005.

9. **Consider claim 1**, Nexus 5001 Forum discloses a method for transmitting digital messages (page 52 of 150, section 6.2, transmission), on execution of an instruction sequence by a microprocessor (page 59 of 150, last paragraph, message is output by the target processor whenever there is a change of program flow), through output terminals of a monitoring circuit integrated on the microprocessor (Table 7-1, Auxiliary Pins required per interface), at least one of said digital messages being representative of characteristic data stored by the monitoring circuit on detection of a jump in the execution of an instruction sequence from an initial instruction to a destination instruction different from an instruction following the initial instruction in the instruction sequence (page 59 of 150, Table 6-6 and 6-7, branch message and indirect branch

messages), comprising, for the transmission of the at least one digital message, the steps of: determining whether the jump is associated with a jump instruction of the instruction sequence for which data representative of the destination instruction address of the jump is explicitly indicated in the instruction (Table 6-6 and Table 6-7, which shows the resulting messages based on the determination; a determination is inherent for the appropriate message to be sent); if yes, assigning a first value to a first set of bits of the digital message, and if not, assigning a second value to the second bits (Table 6-6 and Table 6-7, when yes, Table 6-6 shows that the TCODE set of bits will be equal to 3; when no, Table 6-7 shows that the TCODE set of bits will be equal to 4); transmitting the at least one digital message (page 52 of 150, section 6.2, transmission).

However, Nexus 5001 Forum does not explicitly disclose if the first set of bits is at the second value, *providing an additional field comprising a second set of bits of the at least one digital message and assigning to the second set of bits a third value identifying the jump from among several types of jumps.*

On the other hand, Argade does disclose providing a field comprising a second set of bits of an at least one digital message and assigning to the second set of bits a third value identifying the jump from among several types of jumps (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of a digital message of lines 24-27, with the types of jumps being type_1, type_2, and type_3 in col. 5, lines 49-67).

Argade's teaching of a field which identifies the jump from among several types of jumps enables the capturing of information about whether certain types of instructions were executed, including conditionally executed instructions; a trace of these

instructions may be very important in debugging most programs (Agrade, col. 3, lines 17-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Agrade with the invention of the Nexus 5001 Forum in order to successfully debug most programs, as explained above.

Furthermore, it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the environment of Agrade is analogous to the environment of Nexus 5001 Forum, as Agrade also discloses of a method for transmitting digital messages (col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal), on execution of an instruction sequence by a microprocessor (col. 4, lines 30-31, 39; the program trace), through output terminals (col. 4, 59-65, JTAG interface and port) of a monitoring circuit (col. 4, lines 51, 59-65, HDS block) integrated on the microprocessor (col. 4, line 39; Figure 1 also shows the JTAG interface (24), JTAG port (44), and monitoring circuit (26) clearly inside the microprocessor (10)), at least one of said digital messages being representative of characteristic data stored by the monitoring circuit on detection of a jump in the execution of an instruction sequence from an initial instruction to a destination instruction different from an instruction following the initial instruction in the instruction sequence (col. 5, lines 39-45, wherein a discontinuity corresponds to the jump, and the INSTR_TYPE and its corresponding address is the characteristic data,

Art Unit: 2183

which is part of the digital message as seen again in col. 6, lines 24-27), comprising, for the transmission of the at least one digital message, the steps of: determining whether the jump is associated with a jump instruction of the instruction sequence for which data representative of a destination instruction address of the jump is explicitly indicated in the instruction (col. 5, lines 65-67, the third discontinuity type includes an absolute address instruction jump or call); providing a field comprising a second set of bits of the at least one digital message and assigning to the second set of bits a third value identifying the jump from among several types of jumps (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of the digital message as above in col. 6, lines 24-27); and transmitting the digital message (col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal).

Furthermore, it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the teaching of a jump type field of Agrade could be additionally added to the program trace, indirect branch message of Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-7 without also adding it to the program trace, direct branch message of Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-6. Agrade discloses that his type_3 discontinuity does not need to record an address (Agrade, col. 6, lines 1-4), which fits into Nexus 5001 Forum's teaching of his program trace, direct branch message of Table 6-6, which does not have an address field. Furthermore, Nexus 5001 Forum, Tables 6-6 and 6-7, shows that the two different types of messages are already of different length; it would have been

Art Unit: 2183

readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the jump type field would be added to the indirect branch message without affecting the direct branch message.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Agrade with the invention of the Nexus 5001 Forum in order to enable the capturing of information about whether certain types of instructions were executed, including conditionally executed instructions; a trace of these instructions may be very important in debugging most programs (Agrade, col. 3, lines 17-21).

10. **Consider claim 7**, Nexus 5001 Forum discloses means for storing data characteristic of the detected jump (page 59 of 150, Table 6-6 and 6-7, branch message and indirect branch messages); means for determining a digital message based on the stored characteristic data, the digital message comprising a first set of bits set to a first value if the jump is associated with a jump instruction of the instruction sequence for which data representative of a destination instruction address of the jump are explicitly indicated in the instruction, and set to a second value in the opposite case (Table 6-6 and Table 6-7, when yes, Table 6-6 shows that the TCODE set of bits will be equal to 3; when no, Table 6-7 shows that the TCODE set of bits will be equal to 4); and means for transmitting the determined digital message (page 52 of 150, section 6.2, transmission).

However, Nexus 5001 Forum does not explicitly disclose if the first set of bits is at the second value, *providing an additional field comprising a second set of bits of the*

at least one digital message and assigning to the second set of bits a third value identifying the jump from among several types of jumps.

On the other hand, Argade does disclose providing a field comprising a second set of bits of an at least one digital message and assigning to the second set of bits a third value identifying the jump from among several types of jumps (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of a digital message of lines 24-27, with the types of jumps being type_1, type_2, and type_3 in col. 5, lines 49-67).

Argade's teaching of a field which identifies the jump from among several types of jumps enables the capturing of information about whether certain types of instructions were executed, including conditionally executed instructions; a trace of these instructions may be very important in debugging most programs (Agrade, col. 3, lines 17-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Agrade with the invention of the Nexus 5001 Forum in order to successfully debug most programs, as explained above. Furthermore, it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the environment of Agrade is analogous to the environment of Nexus 5001 Forum, as Agrade also discloses of a method for transmitting digital messages (col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal), on execution of an instruction

Art Unit: 2183

sequence by a microprocessor (col. 4, lines 30-31, 39; the program trace), through output terminals (col. 4, 59-65, JTAG interface and port) of a monitoring circuit (col. 4, lines 51, 59-65, HDS block) integrated on the microprocessor (col. 4, line 39; Figure 1 also shows the JTAG interface (24), JTAG port (44), and monitoring circuit (26) clearly inside the microprocessor (10)), at least one of said digital messages being representative of characteristic data stored by the monitoring circuit on detection of a jump in the execution of an instruction sequence from an initial instruction to a destination instruction different from an instruction following the initial instruction in the instruction sequence (col. 5, lines 39-45, wherein a discontinuity corresponds to the jump, and the INSTR_TYPE and its corresponding address is the characteristic data, which is part of the digital message as seen again in col. 6, lines 24-27), comprising, for the transmission of the at least one digital message, the steps of: determining whether the jump is associated with a jump instruction of the instruction sequence for which data representative of a destination instruction address of the jump is explicitly indicated in the instruction (col. 5, lines 65-67, the third discontinuity type includes an absolute address instruction jump or call); providing a field comprising a second set of bits of the at least one digital message and assigning to the second set of bits a third value identifying the jump from among several types of jumps (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of the digital message as above in col. 6, lines 24-27); and transmitting the digital message (col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase

of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal).

Furthermore, it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the teaching of a jump type field of Agrade could be additionally added to the program trace, indirect branch message of Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-7 without also adding it to the program trace, direct branch message of Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-6. Agrade discloses that his type_3 discontinuity does not need to record an address (Agrade, col. 6, lines 1-4), which fits into Nexus 5001 Forum's teaching of his program trace, direct branch message of Table 6-6, which does not have an address field. Furthermore, Nexus 5001 Forum, Tables 6-6 and 6-7, shows that the two different types of messages are already of different length; it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the jump type field would be added to the indirect branch message without affecting the direct branch message.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Agrade with the invention of the Nexus 5001 Forum in order to enable the capturing of information about whether certain types of instructions were executed, including conditionally executed instructions; a trace of these instructions may be very important in debugging most programs (Agrade, col. 3, lines 17-21).

11. **Consider claim 8**, Nexus 5001 Forum discloses detecting a jump in the execution of the instruction sequence from an initial instruction to a jump destination instruction, wherein the jump destination instruction is different from an instruction following the initial instruction in the instruction sequence (page 59 of 150, Table 6-6 and 6-7, branch message and indirect branch messages, the detection is inherent in the transmission of these messages); and transmitting the at least one digital message (page 52 of 150, section 6.2, transmission).

However, Nexus 5001 Forum does not explicitly disclose if the jump is implicit, *providing an additional field in at least one digital message transmitted on the execution of the instruction sequence by the microprocessor, wherein the additional field includes a value identifying a type of the implicit jump.*

On the other hand, Argade does disclose if the jump is implicit, *providing an additional field in at least one digital message transmitted on the execution of the instruction sequence by the microprocessor, wherein the additional field includes a value identifying a type of the implicit jump* (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of a digital message of lines 24-27, with the types of jumps being type_1, type_2, and type_3 in col. 5, lines 49-67).

Argade's teaching of a field which identifies the jump from among several types of jumps enables the capturing of information about whether certain types of instructions were executed, including conditionally executed instructions; a trace of these instructions may be very important in debugging most programs (Argade, col. 3, lines 17-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Agrade with the invention of the Nexus 5001 Forum in order to successfully debug most programs, as explained above.

Furthermore, it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the environment of Agrade is analogous to the environment of Nexus 5001 Forum, as Agrade also discloses of a method for transmitting digital messages (col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal), on execution of an instruction sequence by a microprocessor (col. 4, lines 30-31, 39; the program trace), through output terminals (col. 4, 59-65, JTAG interface and port) of a monitoring circuit (col. 4, lines 51, 59-65, HDS block) integrated on the microprocessor (col. 4, line 39; Figure 1 also shows the JTAG interface (24), JTAG port (44), and monitoring circuit (26) clearly inside the microprocessor (10)), at least one of said digital messages being representative of characteristic data stored by the monitoring circuit on detection of a jump in the execution of an instruction sequence from an initial instruction to a destination instruction different from an instruction following the initial instruction in the instruction sequence (col. 5, lines 39-45, wherein a discontinuity corresponds to the jump, and the INSTR_TYPE and its corresponding address is the characteristic data, which is part of the digital message as seen again in col. 6, lines 24-27), comprising, for the transmission of the at least one digital message, the steps of: determining whether

the jump is associated with a jump instruction of the instruction sequence for which data representative of a destination instruction address of the jump is explicitly indicated in the instruction (col. 5, lines 65-67, the third discontinuity type includes an absolute address instruction jump or call); providing a field comprising a second set of bits of the at least one digital message and assigning to the second set of bits a third value identifying the jump from among several types of jumps (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of the digital message as above in col. 6, lines 24-27); and transmitting the digital message (col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal).

Furthermore, it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the teaching of a jump type field of Agrade could be additionally added to the program trace, indirect branch message of Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-7 without also adding it to the program trace, direct branch message of Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-6. Agrade discloses that his type_3 discontinuity does not need to record an address (Agrade, col. 6, lines 1-4), which fits into Nexus 5001 Forum's teaching of his program trace, direct branch message of Table 6-6, which does not have an address field. Furthermore, Nexus 5001 Forum, Tables 6-6 and 6-7, shows that the two different types of messages are already of different length; it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the

jump type field would be added to the indirect branch message without affecting the direct branch message.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Agrade with the invention of the Nexus 5001 Forum in order to enable the capturing of information about whether certain types of instructions were executed, including conditionally executed instructions; a trace of these instructions may be very important in debugging most programs (Agrade, col. 3, lines 17-21).

12. **Consider claim 11**, Nexus 5001 Forum discloses a monitoring circuit integrated on a microprocessor for (Table 7-1, Auxiliary Pins required per interface; also, some form of monitoring circuit is inherent given that trace messages are being sent based on program flow): detecting, on execution of an instruction sequence by the microprocessor, a jump from an initial instruction to a jump destination instruction, wherein the jump destination instruction is different from an instruction following the initial instruction in the instruction sequence (page 59 of 150, Table 6-6 and 6-7, branch message and indirect branch messages, the detection is inherent in the transmission of these messages); an analysis tool to reconstitute the instruction sequence based on the at least one digital message; and at least one monitoring terminal to provide the at least one digital message from the monitoring circuit to the analysis tool (Table 7-1, Auxiliary Pins required per interface; also, some form of monitoring circuit is inherent given that trace messages are being sent based on program flow; page 5 of 150, last paragraph,

program trace visibility, development tools, page 51 of 150, first paragraph, the tool; page 58 of 150, section 6.4.4, program trace).

However, Nexus 5001 Forum does not explicitly disclose if the jump is implicit, *providing an additional field in at least one digital message transmitted on the execution of the instruction sequence by the microprocessor, wherein the additional field includes a value identifying a type of the implicit jump.*

On the other hand, Argade does disclose if the jump is implicit, *providing an additional field in at least one digital message transmitted on the execution of the instruction sequence by the microprocessor, wherein the additional field includes a value identifying a type of the implicit jump* (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of a digital message of lines 24-27, with the types of jumps being type_1, type_2, and type_3 in col. 5, lines 49-67).

Argade's teaching of a field which identifies the jump from among several types of jumps enables the capturing of information about whether certain types of instructions were executed, including conditionally executed instructions; a trace of these instructions may be very important in debugging most programs (Agrade, col. 3, lines 17-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Agrade with the invention of the Nexus 5001 Forum in order to successfully debug most programs, as explained above. Furthermore, it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the environment of Agrade is analogous to the

environment of Nexus 5001 Forum, as Agrade also discloses of a method for transmitting digital messages (col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal), on execution of an instruction sequence by a microprocessor (col. 4, lines 30-31, 39; the program trace), through output terminals (col. 4, 59-65, JTAG interface and port) of a monitoring circuit (col. 4, lines 51, 59-65, HDS block) integrated on the microprocessor (col. 4, line 39; Figure 1 also shows the JTAG interface (24), JTAG port (44), and monitoring circuit (26) clearly inside the microprocessor (10)), at least one of said digital messages being representative of characteristic data stored by the monitoring circuit on detection of a jump in the execution of an instruction sequence from an initial instruction to a destination instruction different from an instruction following the initial instruction in the instruction sequence (col. 5, lines 39-45, wherein a discontinuity corresponds to the jump, and the INSTR_TYPE and its corresponding address is the characteristic data, which is part of the digital message as seen again in col. 6, lines 24-27), comprising, for the transmission of the at least one digital message, the steps of: determining whether the jump is associated with a jump instruction of the instruction sequence for which data representative of a destination instruction address of the jump is explicitly indicated in the instruction (col. 5, lines 65-67, the third discontinuity type includes an absolute address instruction jump or call); providing a field comprising a second set of bits of the at least one digital message and assigning to the second set of bits a third value

identifying the jump from among several types of jumps (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of the digital message as above in col. 6, lines 24-27); and transmitting the digital message (col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal).

Furthermore, it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the teaching of a jump type field of Agrade could be additionally added to the program trace, indirect branch message of Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-7 without also adding it to the program trace, direct branch message of Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-6. Agrade discloses that his type_3 discontinuity does not need to record an address (Agrade, col. 6, lines 1-4), which fits into Nexus 5001 Forum's teaching of his program trace, direct branch message of Table 6-6, which does not have an address field. Furthermore, Nexus 5001 Forum, Tables 6-6 and 6-7, shows that the two different types of messages are already of different length; it would have been readily recognized to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the jump type field would be added to the indirect branch message without affecting the direct branch message.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Agrade with the invention of the Nexus 5001 Forum in order to enable the capturing of information about whether certain types of instructions were executed, including conditionally executed instructions; a trace of

these instructions may be very important in debugging most programs (Agrade, col. 3, lines 17-21).

13. **Consider claim 2**, Nexus 5001 Forum discloses the step of assigning to a third set of bits of the at least one digital message a value corresponding to a number of instructions executed by the microprocessor since a last executed instruction of the instruction sequence for which a digital message associated with a jump was transmitted (page 59, Table 6-6 and 6-7, the I-CNT field).

14. **Consider claim 3**, Nexus 5001 Forum discloses the step of, if the first set of bits is at the second value, assigning to a fourth set of bits of the digital message a value representative of the address of the destination instruction (Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-7, U-ADDR).

15. **Consider claim 4**, Argade discloses a jump type corresponds to a jump resulting from a jump instruction of the instruction sequence containing a reference of a register in which are stored data representative of the destination instruction address (col. 5, lines 59-65, register indirect jump or call).

16. **Consider claim 5**, Argade discloses a jump type corresponds to a jump forced by the microprocessor, the destination instruction corresponding to an instruction comprising a series of specific instructions which are different from instructions of the instruction sequence (col. 5, lines 49-52, hardware interrupt).

17. **Consider claim 6**, Argade discloses a jump type corresponds to a jump forced by the microprocessor, the destination instruction being an instruction of the instruction sequence (col. 5, lines 65-67 and col. 6, line 1; relative...address jump or call).

18. **Consider claim 9**, Nexus 5001 Forum and Argade disclose determining whether the jump is associated with a jump instruction of the instruction sequence explicitly indicating an address of the jump destination instruction (Nexus 5001 Forum, page 59 of 150, Table 6-6 and 6-7, branch message and indirect branch messages; it is inherent a determination takes places as either of the two messages are formed as a result of whether the address is explicitly indicated or not); if it is determined that the jump instruction explicitly indicates the address of the jump destination instruction, assigning a first value to a first set of bits of the at least one digital message transmitted (Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 6-6 and Table 6-7, when yes, Table 6-6 shows that the TCODE set of bits will be equal to 3); and if it is determined that the jump instruction does not explicitly indicate the address of the jump destination instruction: assigning a second value to the first set of bits (Nexus 5001 Forum, when no, Table 6-7 shows that the TCODE set of bits will be equal to 4); and assigning to the additional field comprising a second set of bits a third value identifying the type of the implicit jump (col. 5, lines 39-45, the INSTR_TYPE, which is part of a digital message of lines 24-27, with the types of jumps being type_1, type_2, and type_3 in col. 5, lines 49-67).

19. **Consider claim 10**, Nexus 5001 Forum and Argade disclose the at least one digital message is transmitted through output terminals of a monitoring circuit integrated on the microprocessor (Nexus 5001 Forum, Table 7-1, Auxiliary Pins required per interface; Argade, col. 6, lines 24-27, wherein the signal is the digital message; col. 6, lines 46-48, wherein the shifting to the JTAG interface is the first phase of transmittal; and col. 4, lines 63-65, wherein the movement into the JTAG port and the debug host computer is the second phase of transmittal, col. 4, 59-65, JTAG interface and port, col. 4, lines 51, 59-65, HDS block)

Response to Arguments

20. Applicant's arguments filed 5/24/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

21. Applicant's argument throughout his remarks is that the prior art of Argade and Nexus does not teach the newly amended claims and the new claims. However, as seen in the rejection above, Nexus and Argade do teach the newly amended claims and the new claims. The examiner has changed Nexus to be the primary art instead of Argade in light of these amended and new claims.

Conclusion

22. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

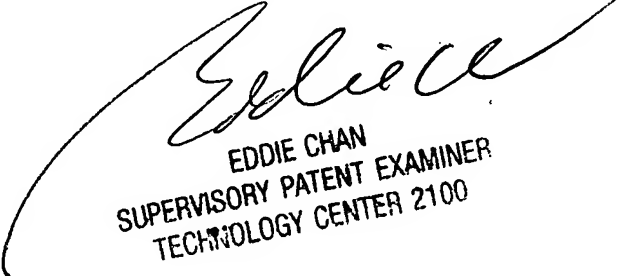
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Keith Vicary whose telephone number is (571) 270-1314. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie Chan can be reached on 571-272-4162. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

kv



EDDIE CHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100